California GARDEN

SINCE 1909 OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1964 VOL. 55—NO. 5—35 CENTS

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FIFTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

FLORAL EVENTS

1964

October

First Annual Exhibition of Ornamental Plants
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3	Saturday, 1-5 p.m.	SANTA MONICA CIVIC
4	Sunday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	AUDITORIUM

ARRANGERS' GUILD SHOW
Theme: "Wonderful World of Wood"

10	Saturday, 1-5 p.m.	FLORAL BUILDING
11	Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.	BALBOA PARK

For details see page 7

November

Show: "Fall Fantasy" Chairman, Mrs. Clarence W. Benson
Pacific Beach Garden Club

7	Saturday, 2-5 p.m.	COMMUNITY CLUB HOUSE
8	Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	GRESHAM and DIAMOND STS.

Second Cultural Symposium
Los Angeles Garden Club

9	Monday, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	HUNTINGTON-SHERATON
	Lectures and Luncheon	HOTEL PASADENA

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"Holiday Arrangements" by Tat Shinno
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21	Saturday, 12:30 p.m.	VACATION VILLAGE
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1. **Arts and Crafts Class,** 10 a.m. First and Third Tuesdays.
   Instructor: Mrs. Arthur Mitchell.
2. **Flower Arrangement Demonstration Class,** 9:30 a.m.
   Last Monday of each month.
   Instructor: Mrs. J. R. Kirkpatrick.
3. **Ikebana Class,** 10 a.m. Second and Fourth Wednesday.
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CALIFORNIA GARDEN

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER, 1964
VOLUME 55 NO. 5

CONTENTS

Wonderful World of Wood
Mary Jane Hershey 7
Native Plants Around Padre Dam
Chauncy I. Jerabek 10
Musings on Street Trees
Alice Mary Rainford 14
Kate Sessions Park Memorial 15
Rare Specimens on Torrey Pines Mesa
Dr. T. W. Whitaker 16
The Tipuana Tree 18
House Plants as Yule Gifts
Millicent Vandekamp 19
Redwood Forest Story 20
House of "Sin"
Fred G. Frost 28

DEPARTMENTS

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Gardener's October-November
Ed Ogden 3
Our Contributors and Readers 5
Garden Tours for Members 6
Roland Hoyt Recommends
Pyrus calleryana 13
50 Years Ago 14
Book Reviews
Alice Mary Greer 18
Calendar of Care 21
Orchids Camellias Dahlias
Fuchsias Roses Begonias
Cacti and Succulents
SDFA Programs and Committees ..30
Civic Center Iris Garden 30
Garden Club Page 31

CALIFORNIA GARDEN

Published Bi-Monthly by the
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Floral Association Building, Balboa Park
Office hours: M-W-F, 10-3. Phone 232-5762
All rights reserved.
Advertising rates on request.

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Subscription $2.00 per year; Foreign countries $3.00. California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.
Entered as second-class matter, Dec. 8, 1910 at the Post Office at San Diego, California under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Gardener's October - November

Cooler nights and more moderate daytime temperatures are with us now. By this time the first planting of cool-season annuals should be in and growing: in sunny areas stock, snapdragons, calendulas, Iceland poppies, English daisies and candytuft; in shadier spots cinerarias, the various primroses (English, fairy, Chinese and German), mimulus, cornflowers, violas and pansies. And don't forget the many annuals which are planted the year around in most of our areas: petunias. alyssum, scarlet flax, lobelia, dwarf phlox and other favorites.

Especially important is the reminder to plant perennials this fall for production next year: coral bells, the various Shasta daisies, columbine, delphinium, campanula, penstemon, coreopsis and gaillardias. Among perennials, too, is a long list that can be planted any time of the year, including Marguerites, agatheas, gerberas, vinca, the favorite English violets, hardier begonias, statice, carnations and the other dianthus types, rooted cuttings of impatiens in frost-free areas, and lotus.

While on the subject of perennials, and to supplement recent articles in *Sunset* magazine and the *L.A. Times* garden columns, there are a number of rewarding perennials which have been proven for our areas by collectors and the more adventurous gardeners, and which are available in any extreme from seeds to gallon cans in nurseries. Included would be *Angelonia grandiflora,* colorful and with the fragrance of crushed grapes; many of the Oenotheras, the sundrop family, mostly with yellow buttercup flowers over half the year; *Thalictrum dipterocarpum* or Meadowrue with its fern-like foliage and tall spires of delicate orchid florets almost floating in the air; Japanese anemone, both pink and white, with lush basal foliage and sprays of blossoms over many months either in sun or shade; *Stokesia laevis,* or Stokes aster, which Dr. Edward Hashinger has kept in constant sky-blue bloom in La Jolla year after year; dimorphotheca hybrids now available in butter yellow, pink and lavender in addition to the familiar frosty-white we have known; geum, the rewarding native, now in hybrid forms that will tolerate garden culture; *Gaura lindheimeri* (which needs to be supplied with an attractive common name by some imaginative gardener) with its sprays of white florets over 6 to 8 months of the year; and the tall-growing lavender-flowered dusty miller with finely-cut foliage and debatable botanical nomenclature, but with dependable performance in sun or shade, heavy soils or light, and with much or little water.

Too late to help disappointed fuchsia lovers in the season just ending, but we feel worthwhile to repeat from an earlier column—the new species of water mold that is raising Cain with fuchsias in Southern California can easily be controlled. If your fuchsias have been dying back, if the foliage has been rotting or yellowing and dropping, and you've checked and can't assign the blame to red spider or white fly, then a check of the root system doubtless will show a form of root rot that's new to our area. And luckily we know the answer. The Shell Oil Company has introduced a soil fungicide with the designation ST 345 which controls an extremely wide range of harmful soil fungus organisms, including the fuchsia water mold. It is *not* available in consumer packages as yet, but if you're having this problem take the trouble to pester a fuchsia grower in your area to donate a tiny medicine bottle of the compound. Otherwise, some mercury compounds used as a soil drench seem to be of help, especially when a detergent is added to assist in penetration.

The fall bulb season is at its height and in addition to the plentiful supplies of familiar bulbs to be found in nurseries there are a few which might

be hard to find but are of especial appeal: crinum lilies and amarcrinums (hybrids between amaryllis and crinums) with their larger evergreen foliage and white to pink spider and trumpet blooms, reliable and easy to grow even in heavy clay soils; sprekelia, the Aztec lily with its evergreen strap-like foliage and bloodred bloom similar to a slender orchid; bletilla (pronounced "bleeshya"), the ground-orchid, hardy under most conditions and with a long blooming period; giant allium, recent show-piece of florists' exhibits, reliable for huge heads of coral-pink florets; veldtheimia, dormant in midsummer but with showy leaves and apricot to orange flower heads in midwinter; pancratium, the gardener's puzzle and despair insofar as maintenance of attractive foliage is concerned, but easy and productive of large heads of light pink trumpets; *Scilla peruviana,* almost evergreen, with large conical heads of true blue flowers in late winter; and Roman hyacinths, rewarding to let naturalize in any garden situation, most productive of loose heads of white or blue or pink florets in multiple clusters in spring.

The approach of winter calls for certain modifications in gardening practice, and wise gardeners will take precautions to minimize the effects of cold both in the air and in the soil. In areas subject to frost, tender plants may be grown satisfactorily provided they are hardened off in the fall and go into cold weather less susceptible to damage. Standard techniques are to drastically withhold water and fertilizer both to avoid tender new growth and to toughen existing foliage. In cases where frost damage is not a threat, low soil temperatures can do as much damage to subtropicals—these plants have not developed resistance to soil fungi that flourish in cold soils and damage root systems, and then the remaining roots operate at a fraction of normal efficiency in the cold soil.

Best practice is to keep our sun-loving subtropicals as dry as possible (wet soil is 20° or more colder than when on the dry side) and to overfertilize to compensate for inefficient root action. Well-established hibiscus, bougainvilleas, citrus and related subtropicals thrive on as little irrigation as once in 5 or 6 weeks, depending on soil, size of root system, and nearness to cooler beach climate. Another precaution: one or two early rains won't cause the wise gardener to change his irrigation practices much—it takes an accumulation of several inches of rainfall to penetrate our soils appreciably.

Hopefully our long pattern of subnormal rainfall will be broken this coming rainy season, and if it happens there will be much rejoicing among long-suffering Southern California gardeners. But heavy rains do bring erosion problems, which leads our thoughts to various bank and ground covers. And, further, to come innovations in plantings we've noticed recently, providing interesting relief from ivies, strawberry, mesembryanthemums and the like. *Asparagus sprengeri* planted from flats makes a billowy mass, as tough as it is dainty, in sun or shade, has proven excellent for slopes, and has no pest problems. Grape ivy (*Cissus rhombifolium*) offers a nice change from the true ivies with its richer texture and easier management. Any of the little strawberry geraniums or saxifrage we think of only as house plants seem to do beautifully in shady areas, with the runners rooting as they go and their different leaf patterns and colors offering much. Similarly, plectranthus, the Cockspur Flower, spreads rapidly and gives an especially lush effect, either in sun or shade, and offers an added attraction of purple leaf venation in colder months. The Rabbits-Foot fern, *Davallia canariensis* supplies a unique effect in shady areas with its furry rhizomes crawling along the ground and over rocks. Where a deep cover is permissible most of our normally arbor-type vines serve quite well, especially those that root as they go. A little imagination in ground covers will pay dividends just as it will in the use of other plants — so don't be afraid to try something new.

A little ahead of the season, but necessary if poinsettias are to be at their best during the holiday season — this colorful flower appreciates more water and food as it starts to color up, in contrast to the normal practice of purposeful neglect they thrive on through the rest of the year, and close attention should be given for evidence of spider mites that have been bothering foliage and bloom lately.

Ed Ogden

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READERS WRITE:

Dear Editor: As a former editor, I examine each issue of CALIFORNIA GARDEN with a hypercritical eye. I am happy to report that I find the material in the magazine consistently interesting and attractively presented.

Especially commendable, it seems to me, is the garden care column by Ed Ogden which appears under the heading "Gardener's August-September," etc. Ogden writes with grace as well as intelligence, and with both authority and insight. He is a worthy addition to such CALIFORNIA GARDEN "evergreens" as Roland Hoyt, C. I. Jerabek and Alice Clark.

Happy Fifty-fifth Anniversary!

George A. La Pointe

(While our volume number changes at the beginning of the year, this magazine first appeared in October, 1909. —Ed.)

Two Tipuana Trees

Dear Editor: Your editorial in the August-September issue mentions the Kate Sessions Tipuana. Due to my local duties, I have not been able to find this tree in San Diego as yet.

I would so appreciate learning its location and even seeing a picture of it in a future issue!

Our Tipuana, planted from a gallon 3½ years ago is thriving on our acre in Valle Verde Ranch Estates. It bloomed profusely this Summer. It is about twenty feet high and even more than 20 in. in diameter. A joy to behold, especially to an ex-Minneapolitan who is avidly learning about California plants. Your magazine is such a help.

Gratefully yours,
Mary P. Davis
Poway, Calif.

Reply

A Tipuana tree, grown from a stripling planted years ago by Miss Kate Olivia Sessions, pioneer San Diego nurserywoman, can be seen on Garnet Avenue, about two blocks west of Highway 101, in Pacific Beach.

A marker or plaque contributed by the Pacific Beach Woman's Club has been placed beside the tree which today is a memorial to the woman who brought so much beauty to this very old city.

Strangely, as Roland Hoyt says, this tree is not commonly grown here where it does so well.

Among Our Contributors

One of our contributors this issue is *Alice M. Rainford,* who returns with a delightful personal article on street trees. Mrs. Rainford is the originator of Rainford Florists and a member of the San Diego Floral Association since its early days.

Always welcome to the pages of CALIFORNIA GARDEN is San Diego's tree expert, *Chauncy I. Jerabek.* For this issue he has a timely article on the native plant life in Padre Dam, California's first irrigation project, now a landmark.

Dr. Thomas W. Whitaker, research geneticist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Horticultural Field Station, La Jolla, has written a timely article on native plants at the Station that may be destroyed in a tract move.

Roland Hoyt, who is a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, is a regular contributor to this magazine. He is author of the book, "Ornamental Plants For Subtropical Regions."

The sage of the North San Diego County coast gardening area, Ed. Ogden, is back again, with one of his bi-monthly contributions to the contents page. It's about October-November planting time.

Fred G. Frost, your editor, had a delightful time interviewing San Diego's special tree beautician, W. B. Sinjen under the tongue-in-cheek heading of "House of Sin."

Millicent Vandekamp is the *non de plume* of a writer who is a newcomer to the pages of CALIFORNIA GARDEN.

GARDEN TOURS FOR MEMBERS

Sunday, October 25, 2 to 5 p.m.

Tour 1—Marston Garden, Seventh Ave. and Upas

Those who visited this spacious garden in April will welcome an opportunity to enjoy it again in its Autumn colors. Rolling lawns and fine specimen trees are always a treat but since Miss Marston, in the last CALIFORNIA GARDEN, told how she kept the patios "bright with flowers," members will look forward to seeing the results of her careful planning with chrysanthemums and other fall blooms.

Tour 2—Garden of Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Ayres at 3574 Seventh Ave.

This home is further north and across the street from the Marston garden. Built and occupied for many years by an old-time SDFA member, this distinguished home has now been adapted to family life. The landscape firm of Wimmer and Yamada has retained the charm of the garden, particularly the twisted Australian Tea Trees, whose shaggy trunks seem literally to coil over the end of the wide brick terrace they shade and the ground cover of rabbit's-foot ferns beneath them.

Raised planters and a fence of dark wood repeat the beams of the house and make an easy transition to the modern swimming pool which is beautifully framed by a series of espaliered evergreen pear trees in high container beds faced down with small-leaved ivy. The serenity obtained by the simple repetition of wood and brick, along with the greens of vines, shrubs and lawns, with little other color, is something to watch for.

Sunday, November 22, 2 to 5 p.m.

Tour 1—Garden of Mrs. David J. Woodward at 373 San Gorgonio

In this Point Loma garden you seem to be on an Italian hillside overlooking a lake instead of a bay. The house was designed in 1927 by an English architect for the late Mrs. Denslow. Her daughter, Mrs. Cary, planted the wisteria whose huge blue-gray trunks catch your attention as you pass through the collonaded portals.

The imported tiles in the entrance court and the Moorish arches around it are set off by the lines of feathered beauty in the large podocarpus tree at the far end. New vistas of garden delight open at every turn in the downhill path that takes the visitor through camellias like tall hedges, ferns from tree size to ground covers, epiphyllums and begonias under lath, to an area for dreaming beside a small pool tucked in among the blues of dwarf amaryllis and rose-colored epidendrums.

Fruit trees of all kinds, berries, vegetables, herbs and a rose cutting garden have their places up and around the hill. In every season there are plots to enjoy. All of this is presided over by a woman who counts gardening as one of the most rewarding of her many hobbies. Her place has known the touch of Miss Sessions, of Alfred Robinson, and of Roland Hoyt but it most suggests the artful hand of W. J. Sinjen.

Tour 2—Garden of W. J. Sinjen at 4644 Long Branch Ave.

On this hill site overlooking Ocean Beach you need not hunt for a house number. Just stop where the tall, silver tree graces the front yard. A most unusual branching eugenia tree shelters the entrance to the house which is also open to members.

Glass walls make this small garden an intimate part of the home, bringing close-up views of bromeliads and orchids on the tree trunks and other exotics all around. Every space speaks. It speaks of its owner's interest in and pure enjoyment of plants. Share it with him.

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ARRANGEMENT SHOW

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF WOOD

By Mary Jane Hershey

Wood, weathered by wind, sun, and water, and the various ways in which it can be used will be demonstrated by members of the Flower Arrangers' Guild of San Diego in their show, "The Wonderful World of Wood," scheduled for the San Diego Floral Association Building, Balboa Park, on Saturday, October 10, from 1 to 5 p.m., and Sunday, October 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Graying wood and textured wood of unusual interest and beauty, wood containers, sculptured pieces of wood and accessories of wood will be used. Collectors' items, gathered by members of the guild over a period of time, will be displayed. Among these will be weathered wood from Borrego desert suggesting the appearance of a wide mouth marsh bird and her fledglings; driftwood from Olympic Peninsula and Puget Sound's Vashon Island; wood covered with a parasite called chartreuse moss from Banner Ranch; a sculptured head, carved from a block of ifili wood from Sumatra; and exploded wood, a parasite that grows on trees in Mexico and which resemble an exotic flower. In the patio, large pieces of driftwood will be featured. A display of ceramic containers created by ceramist, Frank Papworth, will be shown. The Banner Ranch of Julian, California, will be represented by a collection of weathered wood.

Proceeds from this show will be donated to the planned Garden Center to be built in Balboa Park. The San Diego Floral Association, of which the Flower Arrangers' Guild of San Diego is a section, is one of the principal sponsors of the Garden Center. Information regarding this event may be obtained from Mrs. John Casale, president; Mrs. J. Wells Hershey, show chairman, or Mrs. L. L. Carringer, ticket chairman. In charge of staging is Mrs. Howard D. Richardson; Mrs. Peg White, publicity; Mrs. Orville Johnson, treasurer; Mrs. Ralph Canter, patio exhibits; Mrs. Maisie Dodge, front porch exhibits; Mrs. James Hooker, entrance cashier; Mrs. Harry Cutler, hostesses, and Isamu Kawaguchi, protection service.

Arrangement and Photograph by Mary Jane Hershey.

Driftwood used in this arrangement was found on a Puget Sound beach following a "bark tide." Washed by the sea, buffed by the wind and baked by the sun, the texture etched on its surfaces can never be copied by man. In this composition the wood becomes an accessory-container. Wood fern, **Dryopteris marginalis** and the glandiflora rose, "Queen Elizabeth" were combined to offset the wood. The hurricane lamp, a family heirloom, loaned by friends, is reported to have been made by Paul Revere, circa 1770.

Amateur photographers may take pictures from 9 to 10 a.m. on Sunday, October 11. You are cordially invited to attend the "Wonderful World of Wood" Flower Arrangement Show.

Menninger Opus About Seaside Plants Thrills Our Book Reviewer

MARY ALICE GREER

Seaside Plants of the World. **Edwin A. Menninger, Hearthside Press, N.Y., 1964. 303 pages. $9.95.**

To the fore are two devotees of the field of horticulture that stresses wind, salt and sand resistant plants. Each devotee is making a marked impression nationally.

Roland Hoyt influences centers in Southern California that radiate to distant parts; Ed Menninger, on the other hand, infiltrates Southern California from his home base in the Middle West and South.

Each author-horticulturist—kindred spirits—holds high regard for the other. Menninger acknowledges Roland Hoyt in his preface remarks in *Seaside Plants of the World.*

Roland Hoyt, recipient of the highest award conferred by the American Society of Landscape Architects, is an integral part of the civic and horticultural life of Southern California. (Refer to the last issue of CALIFORNIA GARDEN for a biographical acquaintance of R. H.)

Ed Menninger lionizes the famous Menninger family, prominent in the field of mental therapy. His father distinguished himself as a naturalist and botany teacher. Each of his three sons has won laurels; two established the well-known Menninger Institute of Mental Therapy, Menninger Foundation, Kansas City. Ed entered the field of journalism in Florida, where he became especially interested in flowering trees. As a result he has recently given us the most significant work on the introduction of flowering trees that has been done in the United States.

For 25 years he operated a thriving nursery business near the seashore, in which he grew thousands of plants that would enjoy salt in their diet. He and his family summer in the Carolinas, winter in Florida and hop all over the world between times. Besides personally operating the thriving nursery business, he finds time to write exhaustively, lecture, hob-nob with the great horticulturists of the world and delve into exhaustive research.

In the midst of this hectic career and partly as a result of his experimental nursery in Florida, he has found time to produce the finest and I believe, the only book, dealing exclusively with seaside plants.

Seaside Plants of the World is a delightful work; important since it deals with land conservation. The 400 lavish illustrations are high class. You can realize how comprehensive his treatment is, for his chapters discuss Constant Enemies, Good Soil a Prerequisite, Breaking the Force of the Wind, Planting the Garden, Eroding Hills and Reclaimed Marshlands, Ground Covers for Beach Areas, Vines for Use Near the Beach, Grass and Lily-like Plants, Herbs and Sub-Shrubs for Seaside Landscaping, Trees and Palms to Grow Near the Ocean, annuals, vegetables, lawns and even field crops are given. Because the book is unavoidably worldwide in its scope, because experience has shown that plants do not recognize geographical lines, there is a special chapter on New Zealand and Australia.

There is unquestionably good literature in this writing—delightful reading. Ed Menninger knows how to use words just as well as he knows how to use plants. It is a major achievement in the field of horticultural literature, an indispensible reference for a conservationist, a librarian or a horticulturist, an authoritative guide for a gardener living near the sea or in a mountain or desert area where wind and soil erosion threaten plant life.

"Whether the reader lives on Long Island or on the Virginia Capes, on the Coast of Maine or the rock-ribbed Oregon littoral, on one of the Florida Keys, or on an island off the California Coast, he must face up to the general conclusion that great gardens close to the sea are rare; that if he lives high on a rocky shore where wind and wave cannot get at him very well he can only pretend to have solved the problem. This man has no conception of the problems involved in really living by the sea."

Menninger gives considerable attention in the book to a study of plant material on the sea coasts of Southern California and Florida. "More different kinds of plant life grow there—3,000 miles of sea coast—either naturally or by adoption, or at least experimentally, than in any other similar place in the world. Beach landscapers in these two states have brought their salt-resistant material from every country on earth and the gardens thus produced are excellent proving grounds. Northern gardeners should disabuse their minds of the idea that because a plant grows in Florida, and is useful there, it is automatically tender to frost and worthless elsewhere in the country."

The salt-and-sand problem is by no means peculiar to Florida and California. Dwellers on the French and Italian rivieras have been struggling with it for years. The Gulf Coast, the Atlantic Coast are primary battlegrounds; Australia, New Zealand, Bermuda, Bahama, Madeira, West Indies, California Coast, Capetown, Capri, Hawaii, coasts of Ireland and England, France and Spain must all cope with the problem.

Menninger speaks more, perhaps, to the owners of seaside homes than to

landscape architects or nurserymen, although it certainly lifts the horizon of both to a realization that the number of plants which will oppose the sea's fury is enormous and that building them into the landscape will provide more endurance than is found in the very limited formula being followed now on most landscape jobs.

The "project is to provide a setting where people can live by the sea with its varied problems and moods and enjoy its benefits without being harassed by its objectionable features."

He must provide obstacles to sand, wind and salt that will not detract from the ocean's loveliness when it is peaceful, yet will prove successful barricades against its violent moods.

Salt is enemy enough, but the sand borne by violent winds is worse. Again the wind is at the bottom of the trouble. The loss of leaves to salt spray is far less important to plant life than sandblasting of the stems. Actually the most serious problem he can confront as a regular thing is surplus salt deposits.

Well, this very delightful, literary and non-resistant book with its 400 class A photographs tells the reader how to recognize, meet and overcome all these challenging problems. If you are not in a reading or research mood, just enjoying the photographs and cuts will give you a lift. One really hates to put down the book when duty or bedtime bids.

The Picture Book of Perennials.

Arno and Irene Nehrling, Hearthside Press, N.Y., 1964. 288 pages. $5.95.

Hearthside Press now gives us the sixth book written by the well-known and authoritative Nehrling husband and wife team.

Professor Nehrling (Cornell University) has done extensive experimental work with perennials—his early love; has developed and introduced many hybrids; has lectured, taught and staged numerous seasonal shows featuring new and old-time favorite perennials; and is one to whom we should give unquestioned heed.

The mere handling of this volume gives one a decided lift; from its artistic jacket through to the very last page there is not one inharmonious note; the format is high-class, refreshing, lilting, inviting.

The more than 200 superb drawings, photographs and color plates that illustrate the plants, gardens, techniques and principles of design seem breathtaking at times, so exquisite is their finish. Surely the book lives up to two words in its title, "picture book."

Should one feel garden fagged, weary from the pursuit of the mundane, just sit down and thumb through the Nehrling book. A Peter Pan revitalization and rejuvination will be the result!

Nehrling maintains that perennials are the favorite backbone of almost any successful planting, because they are labor and money savers, present infinite diversity, adapt to any location if wisely chosen, possess endless landscape possibilities, cover a long blooming period and are companionable with other plants.

A delightful section, "A to Z of Perennials" demonstrates what can be done when a comprehensive check list joins hands with art. Then come seven chapters comprising Part II of the book and covering such subjects as techniques of planting, propagating, pest control, pruning, transplanting, mulching, fertilizing and landscaping. But even these matter-of-fact categories are presented in a come-hither, contagious manner, for the authors never allow a hint of discouragement or any suggestion of backache or knee strain to creep in. This may be a salient point or it may not be!

Part III handles garden care month by month; an exhaustive list of perennials for every purpose, geographic areas and blooming time — however, only for northeastern United States; seven backbone plants for the small garden—here they are; daffodils, tulips, iris, peonies, delphiniums, perennial phlox, hardy chrysanthemums—a delightful selection for an other-than-Southern California garden. However, some substitutions could be made. Very useful definitions for the perennial gardener give satisfaction.

Then this delightful volume closes presenting nine outstanding, high-class photographs, so that at the end our spirits are left steeped in the beauty of it all.

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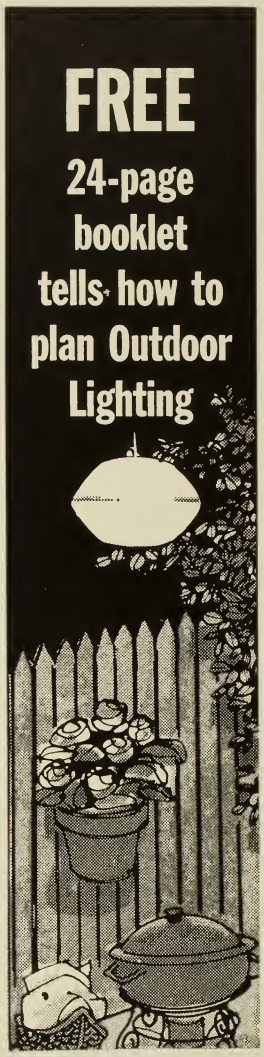
17 BUY REDWOODS

Seventeen Southern Californians have purchased redwood trees in the high timber country 40 miles east of Porterville. The trees, up to 3,000 years old, were sold by Lewis Leppelman, developer and owner of Visalia Homes in Visalia, who owns a tract in which the trees are located. The tract is six miles north of Camp Nelson on Highway 190.



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Writer Visits "Old Padre" Dam Finds Many Native Plants

By CHAUNCY I. JERABEK

At the easterly end of the Mission Gorge in San Diego are the remains of the Old Padre dam built between 1803-1816, by Indian labor under the supervision of the Franciscan Fathers.

During the time of its construction the stonework was cemented solid to the natural bedrock. It originally was 224 feet long, with a 12-foot wide base, 14 feet high and about 10 feet wide at the top. When full it held water. This with its nine miles of aqueduct could be called the engineering feat of the ages, as it probably was the first irrigation system of the entire West.

The latter part of June I visited the site of the "Old Padre Dam," not to view its remains but to check on the vegetation. In reality to make a record of the plant life in close proximity. At this time the San Diego River was a small, meandering stream with pools along its course. In the immediate vicinity of the dam were several of these pools in which grow the common (1) Cat-tail, *Typha latifolia* with their long, narrow, stiffish leaves and cylindrical, brown ramrods of packed seed. Also growing in the water was the four-foot (2) Bulrush, *Scirpus olneyi* having rush-like stems of deep green. Also west of the dam, near the south edge of the pool, a dwarfer variety of (3) Three Square, *Scirpus americana.* This was about a foot high with gray-green grass-like leaves.

Along the north edge of the shallow water east of the dam also in the vicinity of number (20) on the southwest bank were some tall (4) Yellow Evening Primrose, *Oenothera hookeri.* Its delicate yellow flowers open at dusk, staying open throughout the night, but the next morning most of the exquisite blossoms are drooping and wilted. Another perennial mixed in with these was (5) Wild Celery, *Apium graveolens,* this having pinnately compound leaves, small white flowers. If the foliage is crushed you will get the celery odor.

Near the southeast portion of this sluggish water forming a ground cover for some of the willows are (6) Yerba Mansa, *Anemopsis californica.* This creeping rootstock plant belongs to the lizard-tail family and has numerous long-stemmed basal leaves with conical spikes of whitish flowers.

Approximately a hundred feet west of the dam, above a miniature waterfall was a basin of shallow water upon which was creeping or floating, a patch of the common (7) Watercress, *Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum,* a spreading soft-rooted perennial, with flowers in short racemes followed by slender.

PADRE DAM DEDICATION SET FOR OCT. 11

Padre Dam, California's first irrigation project, now an historical landmark, will be properly dedicated Oct. 11.

The reservoir, built by the Indians 156 years ago, is located six miles northeast of San Diego Mission de Alcala, and is five miles west of Santee, on the north side of Mission Gorge Road, in San Diego County.

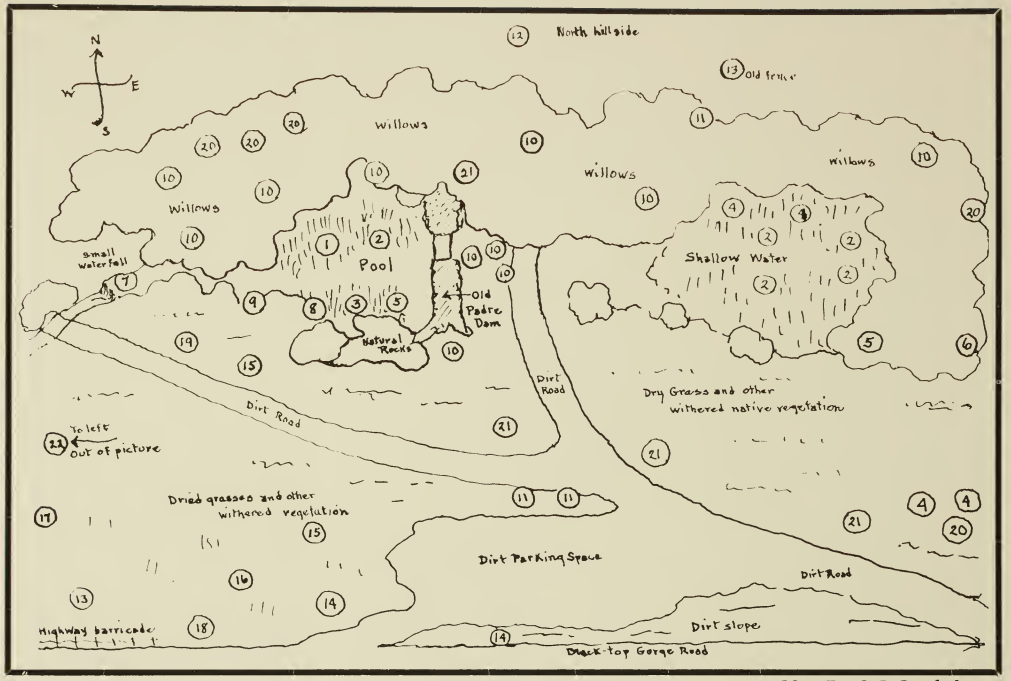
City and county officials will play an important part in the dedication ceremonies starting promptly at 2 p.m.

Plans for the rites were made four months ago by a 35-member committee.

A few months ago the Department of the Interior designated the area as a landmark because of the native stone and cement and as a location of early Indian habitation.

The dam, which contains many varieties of native plants, that are described in an article by Chauncy Jerabek in this issue of California Garden, was built in 1807, 38 years after Father Junipero Serra founded the first California Mission on Presidio Hill, in Old San Diego.

The dam was completed about three years after the War of 1812. The most complete history of the dam and flume is a phase of former *Union* editor, Richard Pourade's book, "Time of the Bells." Mr. Pourade is now editor-emeritus of the San Diego *Union.*



Map By C. I. Jerabek

ROUGH SKETCH OF NATIVE PLANTS AROUND THE PADRE DAM IN JUNE, 1964:

curved pods. Though native of Europe it is now widely naturalized in streams of North America. This favorite salad plant is often sold in the vegetable departments of our supermarkets.

A short distance west of the dam, are two low-growing trees, one, the (8) Slender Willow, *Salix exiqua,* which is a gray, narrow-leaved type, at this season showing its dense catkins. The other dwarf one is (9) California Black Willow, *Salix gooddingii.* This variety being very prolific, is all covered with matured blossoms.

For several hundred feet east and west of the dam especially along the north bank were many of the (10) Arroyo Willows, *Salix lasiolepis.* A shrubby, small tree with leaves which are shiny dark green above and graying beneath, its catkins appear before the foliage. This is the most abundant species of the willow growing in San Diego County. One thing that probably helped the wall survive complete vandalism was the fact that it was hidden for years by the native growth, especially the willows.

To the north, near the foot of the steep slope were some (11) Mule-fat, *Baccharis viminea,* a willowy shrub

KEY TO PADRE DAM PLANTS

1. **Cat-tail** ***Typha latifolia***
2. **Bulrush** ***Scirpus olneyi***
3. **Three-Square** ***Scirpus americana***
4. **Yellow Evening Primrose** ***Oenothera hookeri***
5. **Wild Celery** ***Apium graveolens***
6. **Yerba Mansa** ***Anemopsis californica***
7. **Watercress** ***Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum***
8. **Slender Willow** ***Salix exigua***
9. **California Black Willow** ***Salix goodingi***
10. **Arroyo Willow** ***Salix lasiolepis***
11. **Mule-Fat** ***Baccharis viminea***
12. **Laurel Sumac** ***Rhus laurina***
13. **California Elderberry** ***Sambucus coerulea***
14. **Chaparral Broom** ***Baccharis sarothroides***
15. **Flat Top Buckwheat** ***Erigonum fasciculatum***
16. **Coastal Sage Brush** ***Artemisia californica***
17. **Lemonade Berry** ***Rhus integrifolia***
18. **Toyon, Christmas Berry** ***Heteromeles arbutifolia***
19. **Tree Tobacco** ***Nicotiana glauca***
20. **Western Cottonweed** ***Populus fremontia***
21. **California Sycamore** ***Platanus racemosa***
22. **Coast Live Oak** ***Quercus agrifolia***

with narrow leaves. Ageratum-like white flowers in terminal clusters appear in the late Spring.

Near the top of the far hill on slanting ground is a (12) Laurel Sumac, *Rhus laurina.* A shrub with many stems, two to 10 feet high. The leaves are lance-shaped and curve downwards. The leaf and flower twigs are reddish, its terminal flower clusters are greenish-white followed by very small wax-coated berries. Further to the right, near an old fence, is a shrubby (13) California Elderberry, *Sambucus caerulea* with odd pinnate leaves, small white flowers, then large, flat-topped compound clusters of blue berries which have a mealy-white look.

North of the black-topped highway, the dry slope between it and the dirt canyon road is covered with dry grass and other native growth, the most outstanding being (14) Chaparral Broom, (Hierba del Pasmo) *Baccharis sarothroides.* This is a much-branched shrub with numerous green angled twigs which form crowded broom-like clumps. Its real dry leaves are few. The individual flowers are insignificant but when the seeds ripen the bush looks as though covered with white fluffy down.

Another well-known native is (15) Flat-top Buckwheat, *Eriogonum fasciculatum.* This is one of the commonest low-growing shrubs of the area with numerous narrow olive-green leaves which are revolite marginal and tomentose beneath. Densely crowded, flattish clusters of pinkish-white flowers which stay in bloom for a considerable time make this one of the most important honey plants of Southern California.

Fairly near by is (16) Coastal Sage Brush, *Artemisia california,* similar to the plant called "Old Man" of our grandmother's garden. This is a shrub 4 to 5 feet high with many slender branches; the threadlike leaves are grayish-green. In its blooming season it is covered with many, very small, whitish flower heads. When the plant is brushed against or a piece crushed in the hand it emits an aromatic odor.

In the near vicinity is another very heavy growing shrub (17) Lemonade Berry, *Rhus integrifolia* with oval, two-inch, rigid and leathery leaves. In the Spring, small rose-colored flowers appear in dense clusters. Its flat, little reddish drupes are covered with an acid, sticky substance. When crushed and left to stand in water, it makes a lemonade-like drink, used in early days by the Indians and Mexicans as a thirst quencher.

Another very attractive evergreen shrub or small tree is (15) Christmas Berry, Toyon, *Heteromeles arbutifolia.* which has dark green, glossy leaves, white flowers in dense terminal clusters. followed by red berries in the fall. Nearby is another shrub which sometimes becomes tree-like. Though a native of South America, it has become naturalized in Southern California.

This is a (19) Tree-tobacco, *Nicotiana glauca,* a loosely branched evergreen plant with blue-green, smooth leaves on long stems. Its yellow tubular, two-inch-long flowers are in loose compound clusters, followed by very fine seed which is carried by the wind and scattered far and wide, small plants coming up in the most unlikely places. Although some people have it as a specimen in their gardens, most Californians regard it as a troublesome weed.

A short distance both east and west of the dam, amongst the willows are a number of (20) Western Cottonwood, *Populous fremontia.* These are fairly large trees with drooping branches and grayish-white bark. Smooth, yellow-green leaves are heart-shaped with slender, flattened stems. During the windy days of Spring, its little seeds, which are embedded in fluffy white down, will be widely distributed. Those falling on moist ground, especially along water-courses, will soon start a new life.

East of the dam, along the southern bank, are three mutilated, (21) California Sycamore, *Platanus racemosa,* trees with irregular trunks and branches, their bark flaking off in small sections, leaving uneven creamy-white patches. Their maple-like leaves are broad with deep lobes, the upper surface is smooth, while the opposite side is hairy; their petioles have a hollow base which fits over the buds. The flowers are minute, barely noticeable but later come the globular seed clusters hanging from the twig tips, each stem having from two to seven seed heads. Whether in full foliage or deciduous, a good specimen of this tree is very attractive.

About a mile below the dam, the gorge widens, here the creek (a river in times of abundant rainfall) bottom is strewn with boulders of many sizes. But upon islands of higher ground and on the northern slopes of the gorge are many good specimens of (22) Coast Live Oak, *Quercus agrifolia.* Though it may be a massive tree, it often assumes a shrubby form; here it is apt to be short-trunked and medium-limbed. The dull, dark green leaves are oval or almost round with spiny margins which turn under at the edges. Its small, cupped acorns are slender and pointed, an inch to one-and-a-half inches long.

Without a doubt, during the rainy period, one could see many other interesting plants along the chaparral covered slopes. When I visited it in the latter part of June, it was already the arid season. But as the Summer wanes it will become much drier, the shallow water will completely disappear, the deeper pools will probably be covered over with algae.

On October 11 this site will be dedicated as a historical monument. During the intervening time between Spring and Fall, the Park and Recreation Department will do some trimming and clearing which could change the landscape slightly. Just to keep the record straight, please remember, when reading this article, that it was written as of last June.

FORESTERS SAVE OLDEST REDWOOD

A special salute to the State Division of Forestry men who apparently saved Old Moses, one of the oldest redwood trees on earth. Old Moses, a name given by loggers in the Porterville area. is a Sequoia Gigantea, which was set afire by a lightning bolt recently.

The tree, which is located in the Sequoia National Park, is 18 feet in diameter at the base and towers 240 feet into the air. Its age has been estimated at 2000 years old. It was standing in the Sierra foothills since before the Christian era.

When foresters found that the fire was too high to be fought from the ground, they used airplanes and helicopters to pour water and chemicals on it. For days the fire smouldered stubbornly.

In a last-ditch attempt to extinguish the embers, the foresters used a helicopter to pour 1,000 gallons of "wet-water" on the fire. The plane carried a 105-gallon pan beneath it. "Wet-water" has been chemically treated to make it penetrate the wood better.

The foresters then dumped 500 gallons of "jellied" water on top of the "wet-water" to keep it from evaporating. The tree is situated in Dillon Wood, a 120-acre tract, privately owned, but within the borders of the park's forest at the 7,200-foot level.

ROLAND HOYT RECOMMENDS

Pyrus Calleryana

Pyrus calleryana, a "Pear" for these regions, usually seen here as an irregular, errant tree 15-25 feet high after having served its purpose as an espalier . . . crooked and distorted, the angular limbs misshapen, twisting away from whatever had been, a house or a wall. This quality of ultimate size should be considered when setting the plant out as an espalier and the matter of scale to the structure observed. It is handsome in this use, especially against a light structure and will serve well for a number of years. Ultimately, however, it will claim its inherent rights and demand freedom in the most up-to-date sense and coloring of the twentieth century.

Let there be no mistake about this because the type form is grown as far south as Washington, D.C. as a flowering tree streetside and not particularly recommended for gardens due to its size. Dr. W. E. Whitehouse and others of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, reports in the *American Horticultural Magazine* a tree on the Beltsville, Maryland, station grounds as 50 feet high and 30 feet across at 44 years.

To be sure, the tree used here as the "Evergreen Pear" may be a lower form, adapted by selection for garden use. The variety term "Kawakami" would indicate a Japanese background where the dwarf character could be expected. As such, it is commonly grown in Southern California for the characteristic ramification of stem and horizontally inclined structure.

The white flowering of late winter or very early spring is that of a typical pear or apple and a poignant memory to some. Even the clustered flower pedicels and their halo of light terminating a short, stubby spur are reminiscent . . . nostalgic in a way, for one who looks at flowers and who has lived away from temperate regions for long years. The flower is conspicuously peppered with the black dots of the stamens and may be more pronounced than shown in Alfred Hottes' drawing. The foliage is evergreen in subtropical regions, dark and shining, the leaves undulating and wavy to catch the light at varying angles for a lively aspect as a breeze or the wind moves them about.

With age, the base of the short trunk can take on an extremely picturesque look, flaring markedly at the ground with a knotted, knurly texture left from the many water-sprouts that have been removed. Rub these off as they appear while still in the succulent stage . . . don't cut. Dig them out if they have gone into a hard-wood condition. Otherwise, they will return in a young, vigorous trunk. Shape the plant with the pruning shears to suit the purpose for which designed, this to be done in late winter or spring.

There is one rather serious disease, serious that is if not handled properly and in time. Fire blight is a bacterial disease with no specific for control. However, in this case it is easily held in check if infected shoots are removed immediately and if there is no close source of infection. It shows up first as a wilty condition of the soft, young shoots, then a die-back into older wood and this is a good reason for not pushing the plant unduly with feeding. If these shoots are cut out on sight and in the beginning, there will prob-

Musings On Street Trees

By ALICE M. RAINFORD

Someone suggested I write an article on street tree planting. Well, I don't own a city lot anymore and when I did I planted Cocos Plumosa. That's what Miss Sessions wanted.

Maybe a lot of people who write recipes work at a desk all day and don't cook and people who write lovely poems about trees and flowers are cooped-up in a downtown cubby-hole.

Some folks think my palms look like feather-dusters but they have survived in spite of the fact that the utility companies do not like them and whack them off, even the nice green branches, twice a year.

I like the Jacarandas and I am so glad to see them on Fourth Avenue now. They are open enough in growth that they do not obstruct the view of persons backing out of driveways.

Brazilian Peppers and Liquidambar are favorites of mine, but when young they are dense in growth and should not be too close to the driveway. It might be well to get as large specimens as ones nursery can recommend and thin them out a bit.

There is nothing so magnificent as a fine tall tree, but one may as well wait until the wires go underground or power is beamed to us by telestar or some other radionic invention.

Down with the wires, I say, even, so housemovers and big moving vans always take a toll. Our block has suffered desperately from both this last year. Glory Be, they never touch the palms, but the Brazilian Peppers have brittle stems and are broken so often.

I like some of these new subdivisions where the sidewalk is next to the curb and there is no parking strip. Now that I am elderly it is hard to step out of a car into a tangle of Ivy or mesembryanthemus and struggle to the walk, especially at night.

I like the idea of planting street trees on your own lot next to the sidewalk, for then you can plant the tree you love. Just now my affection is for *Calodendrum capensis* or Cape Chestnut which has dark green leaves and lovely soft pink flowers with long stamens and a full, finely shaped head.

There is one at 3145 Brant Street in full bloom now, simply glorious, the clusters of flowers suggest azaleas.

I don't mind if a street is curved and has no parking strip. Mr. Average Man never takes good care of the grass in a parking strip. It is always a mess, dries out quickly and is more care than his whole lawn.

When you water, it is always running over and wasting unless you trench the edge and then someone is sure to catch a high heel in it and complain.

I am for curved streets, slower driving and no parking strip. Plant the tree you like just inside your own grounds where no one can say no-no until it gets big enough to hang down over the sidewalk.

ROLAND HOYT RECOMMENDS

ably be no further trouble until next year's growing period. Make cuts well back into healthy wood. Keep the shears away from infected parts. Use one hand to remove the cuttings which should be burned. Keep that hand closely at home until the job is done. Don't touch the plant anywhere with it. Other pomaceous, or apple-like plants may be a source of infection, loquat, cotoneaster and others that may be found in these regions. If your pyracantha suddenly, in part or as a whole, turns burned-brown, it probably has given up to the fire of this blight . . . remove immediately and burn.

This plant is unusually clean and non-littering. It is not demanding as to site or soil. It adapts to considerable drouth or to rather wet ground, even with roots submerged in seasonal standing water, if part of the system is in drier ground where it can breathe.

50 YEARS AGO in CALIFORNIA GARDEN

We learn that the City Council is holding extraordinary sessions and straining every nerve to allow Tree Commissioner Klauber sixty dollars for the trimming of the trees on Fifth Street.

It is difficult to decide which most to admire, the Council for these efforts or Mr. Klauber for his persistency. On its appointment the Tree Commission asked for a working fund of ten thousand dollars.

Presumably since that time this amount has come down by gradation to this modest sixty, and it is something to know that there is a chance of its being allowed.

* * *

While professing the utmost sympathy with the proposal of Mr. Wheeler to utilize the vacant lots to settle the two vital questions of the unemployed and the city beautification, we fear it is a beautiful dream.

The majority of our vacant lots have neither the soil nor other conditions suitable to profitable culture in vegetables or flowers, and the majority of our unemployed could not so use them were it otherwise.

The average unemployed would need two professional gardeners to keep him from doing the wrong thing while a third did the planting.

* * *

However, we have had the privilege of visiting the home of Mr. Wheeler, and it is a sufficient credential to allow him to speak on these matters, and these comments we hope are respectful; they seem necessary because the Floral Association was mentioned as one organization among others that might form a company to exploit or rather combine the unutilized forces of the unemployed labor and the vacant lot.

* * *

We are bound to look out for the Floral Association and must warn it against any attempt to corner the vegetable or flower market. The law frowns on these big combines.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON

Kate Sessions Memorial Program Slated For Her 107th Anniversary

San Diego City Beautiful, Inc., is now making arrangements to observe the 107th anniversary of the birth of Katherine Olivia Sessions, late and famous horticulturist.

Appropriate ceremonies dedicated to the life and work of Miss Sessions will be given in her park at the extension of Loring Street in Pacific Beach on November 7 this year.

Mrs. Raymond C. Smith, president of City Beautiful, Inc., said the program is to be given one day earlier this year so as not to conflict with the Massing of the Colors program in Balboa Park on November 8.

Her organization invites everyone who can to attend the ceremonies to pay a glowing tribute to a most remarkable person, the late and revered Kate Sessions.

Miss Sessions was born in San Francisco the daughter of Colonel and Mrs. Josiah Sessions, members of an early American family.

She spent her early life in Oakland, attending its elementary schools. She was graduated in 1881 from the University of California, Berkeley, with a BSc degree in agriculture.

Two years later, following a trip to Hawaii, where she inspected native plants, she came to San Diego, where she taught classes at the old Russ School.

She was lonely when she first came to this city, and would often return to her Oakland home. But there was something about early San Diego that always drew her back to it.

It was in 1884 that she actually began to devote her life to floriculture and horticulture. She opened a small nursery as part of her cottage in Coronado.

If you will scan through early San Diego city directories you will find that the first record of a San Diego nursery bearing the name Sessions appeared in 1903.

As her business grew she needed more room to expand, and for a time she began cultivating an area in the Mission Hills section of the city.

Kate Sessions as a young girl.

Wherever she went, whatever she touched, became alive with growing things: flowers, plants, trees. Many trees stand today a tribute to her green thumb.

Her greatest achievement—the turning of 30 acres of barren public land into a paradise—came in 1892. These were part of a 1,400-acre plot set aside by the city of San Diego in 1868 for use as a city park of the future.

She signed a lease with the City agreeing to plant 100 trees annually in the park land and give 300 additional trees to the city in exchange for 30 acres.

This latter acreage was on Sixth Avenue, south of Upas Street, in what is now Balboa Park. She planted many roots of plants from foreign lands. She lived to see the handiwork turn into a huge botanical garden.

Realizing there was little else she could do in the central part of San Diego, Miss Sessions set her sights on the northern part of the city, near the shores of beautiful Mission Bay.

In 1914 she had purchased 67 acres of land in Pacific Beach, and soon it was under cultivation. Although she visited the land often, she did not actually move to the beach area until 1928.

She lived in Pacific Beach at 5090 Los Altos Road, and commuted to San Diego, where she still maintained a nursery at 4016 Randolph Street. It was not until 1930 that she established a nursery on Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach.

It was during the Thirties that she became interested in some land in the vicinity of Lamont and Loring Streets. She thought it a good place for a community park.

Miss Sessions did not live long enough to see the fulfillment of this dream of hers for the community of Pacific Beach. She died in La Jolla on March 24, 1940.

But her dream came true.

Through the cooperation of citizens in the community and with the help of members of the various municipal bodies Kate Sessions Memorial Park in Pacific Beach became a fact.

Among those playing a leading part in the development of plans for the memorial park were Dr. Ralph Smith Roberts of Pacific Beach and former Councilman Ross Tharp of Point Loma.

Dr. Roberts was an old friend of Miss Sessions and for years he has been interested in the beautification of the North Shores community. Mr. Tharp was living in Clairemont when he was a member of the San Diego City Council.

Others residing in the Pacific Beach community who gave their all to make Miss Sessions dream possible included Mrs. Raymond Smith (no relation to Dr. Roberts) and Ed Rowan, a retired labor union executive.

Among groups most active in the development of plans for the park were the Pacific Beach Woman's Club and the Pacific Beach Coordinating Council.

Two Cypress trees of Guadalupe Islands.

Rare Torrey Pines Specime

Fac

By DR. THOMAS W. WHITAKER

The U.S. Horticultural Field Station on Torrey Pines Mesa is scheduled to be closed about November 1, 1964, or shortly thereafter.

The City of San Diego has exercised its option to terminate the lease with the U.S. Department of Agriculture under which the Station operates.

It is understood the City Council will dispose of the property to real estate developers for the construction of high-rise apartments and related facilities.

The Station began operation in 1923 as an Acclimatization Garden, or what we now call a Plant Introduction Garden. Prior to 1936, many species of plants were brought into this country by plant explorers of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and grown at Torrey Pines Mesa.

From this Station, plants were distributed to other areas to test their adaptability to specific conditions of soil, climate, water, etc. Avocados, cactus, cherimoyas, citrus, coffee, species of *Gossypium* (cotton), dates, species of *Ephedra,* macadamia, mulberry, papayas, palms, *Podocarpus,* rubber plants, sapotes, and many others were observed and tested.

Furthermore, there remain to this day specimen plants of nearly all of those mentioned except coffee.

After 1936, the plant introduction function of the Station ceased, and was superseded by a vegetable breeding project, formerly located at Chula Vista. Following this move, the Station rapidly became a nationally recognized center for the development of disease resistant and adapted cultivars of lettuce and muskmelons.

The purpose of this article is to indicate some of the fine specimens of ornamental trees and shrubs that have added immensely to the value of California horticulture, and are shortly to become victims of the bulldozer.

One of the outstanding trees on the Station grounds is a macadamia. This tree was probably planted in 1924. If so, it is among the oldest, if not the oldest macadamia tree in the State. The tree regularly produces a crop of nuts, although there is no systematic effort to fertilize and irrigate it.

Another tree of historical interest is a mulberry, probably *Morus multicaulis.* Mulberry trees were planted on the Station in connection with a pilot experiment to establish a silk-worm industry in San Diego County at San Marcos. This specimen is a handsome, deciduous small tree or large shrub with glossy dark-green leaves. It bears enormous numbers of delicious juicy, pleasantly tart, red berries that turn almost black at maturity. The fruit makes exceptionally colorful jelly.

In the early 1930's, the late Guy L. Fleming returned from a trip to the Guadalupe Islands with seeds of the Guadalupe Island Cypress (*Cupressus guadalupensis*) and the Guadalupe Island Pine (*Pinus radiata* var. *binata*). The seeds were given to Mr. Charles Marshall of the Station staff to propagate. There are one-half dozen cypress trees remaining and two pines. The stately cypress have interesting smooth, cherry-red exfoliating bark.

One of the trees is about 25-30 feet tall and has a trunk diameter of 6 feet 8 inches, 4 feet above the ground. The Guadalupe Island Pines grow rapidly under good conditions. The two on the Station are monsters, about 30 feet tall, and with an equal spread in girth.

In 1937, by invitation, the famous San Diego horticulturist, Miss Kate Sessions, planted a number of trees and shrubs around one of the cottages on the Station. A number of these plants survive.

A fine specimen of mulberry, most likely *Morus multicaulis.*

ns

Destruction in Project Drive

Tecoma stans trees.

Photographs by the author

This large macadamia tree is about 20 feet tall.

Among them is the handsome *Eugenia paniculata.* In the fall and winter it is covered with greyish-purple fruits. In the winter, the shiny dark-green leaves are interspersed with greyish-purple berries.

A large shrub, or small tree of *Tecoma stans* was also planted by Miss Sessions. During the summer months it is covered with a shower of large golden-yellow, trumpet-shaped flowers; a lovely and unusual sight. It needs to be severely pruned each year because the wood is soft and brittle. As a result, even winds of moderate intensity are likely to break the branches.

In the patio at the entrance to the Office-Laboratory building, there is a good-sized, flat-topped evergreen shrub. This shrub, *Gossypium harknessii,* is one of the lintless cottons from the islands of the Gulf of California. It has yellow, hollyhock-like flowers, with a dark purple center. It blooms sparingly but almost continuously, and makes an attractive ornamental. It has the additional virtue of not being subject to common pests.

Another unusual plant, introduced in this country through the Station, is the weird, dichotomously branched *Kalanchoe beharensis.* It was collected in Madagascar by Dr. C. F. Swingle, formerly of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and now living at Pala. *K. beharensis* is a gigantic shrub, with enormous leaves. The prominent leaf-scars give the trunk a waffle-like appearance. Every year after the plant reaches maturity, the terminal of each branch produces a huge inflorescence of rather small, inconspicuous, yellowish-green flowers.

Eugenia planted by Miss Sessions.

There are many large Torrey Pine trees on the Station grounds, but more interesting is a small grove of Torrey Pines raised from seed collected by Mr. Guy L. Fleming from trees growing on Santa Rosa Island. The original idea was to compare them with trees from the mainland grown in the same environment. There may be subtle differences, but to the casual observer they appear to be similar.

This is a partial list of the many fine specimen trees and shrubs programmed for destruction. It is to be hoped the developers of the area will have the foresight, good taste and imagination to preserve the beauty and values that reside in these unusual, mostly rare, and always interesting plants. The American people, however, have a propensity for bulldozing out of existence some of their most precious possessions in the name of progress.

Lintless cotton shrub, *Gossypium harknessii.*

The Kate Sessions Tipuana Tree

Tipuana Tipu

The Tipuana is a wide-spreading tree from Brazil. Kate Sessions obtained seeds and planted these on the Pacific Coast. She raised many of these trees, and they became popular. The original tree, grown by Miss Sessions, stands at the roadside, near what was once the site of her nursery, on Garnet Avenue, about two blocks from Highway 101, in Pacific Beach. The tree is more than 30 feet in height and has a 40-foot spread.

The flowers are orange-yellow marked brownish at the base, pea-shaped, petals rather wrinkled, produced in immense terminal clusters (panicles), in midsummer. The leaves are opposite, compound, 17-to-21-parted, the whole leaf often 18 inches long. The tree is deciduous for a few weeks each year.

The twigs are rusty-hairy. Strange, one-winged fruits are 2½ inches long, and remind one of maple seeds. Of course, maples are not related to the Tipuana. Each fruit contains 1 to 3 seeds. It is a profuse flowering tree which takes considerable space. It stands water or lack of it. Young trees need pruning to get them to start into shapely form. R.S.H.

As several new readers of CALIFORNIA GARDEN have requested it, we are reprinting a photograph of the Kate Sessions Tipu-tree (*Tipuana tipu*), shown above.

Persons en route on November 7 to attend the 107th anniversary observance dedicated to Miss Sessions at her park in Pacific Beach will see this tree on the north side of Garnet Avenue,

Hummers Add Touch to Season's Gardens

Southern California gardeners have been blessed this past season by the number of humming birds that have played overhead and quenched their thirsts by sipping with their long, slender beaks the nectar of the vines.

Although these bipeds are usually found from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego, 11 of the species are found in the West. The birds do not require much food.

Plants that are attractive to these birds are those whose flowers hang downward like the fuchsia-flowered gooseberry and the California fuchsia (Zauchneria).

Vines such as Cape May or Texas honeysuckle, the pink and red trumpet, and the trumpet creeper are favored spots for these midgets.

They are attracted to the bright colored shrubs and vines. For some reason they know that the best of the thirst quenchers are there.

In taking food they never alight, but feed while hovering on the wing before the flower. They support themselves while in midair by the vibratory movement of the wings. Hence the peculiar humming sound one often hears.

While the nectar of the vine is partaken of, it is not the one and only food they obtain. Humming birds also feed on insects, and carry away flies caught in the web of spiders.

GRASS GROWS IN LAGUNA

Something new in the field of landscape design for large housing construction in Southern California is being put to use in the Leisure World "people-over-52" project in the Laguna Hills.

It's called "instant grass." Grass sod from Tehachapi, transported south by trucks and trailers, is being installed in the housing development.

The grass is a hybrid variety of Marion Newport, Marion Kentucky and Marion Bluegrass mix. The sod weighs about 5 lb. per square foot and is being transported in rolls.

This method of having lawns immediately was popular in the East. It is being furthered here.

Other landscape architects who are or who may be engaged in landscaping and site planning for large developments might well take a look at the Laguna Hills project, to see how this new gimmick is taking hold.

TREES MAY DIE

Two giant cypress trees located on private properties in La Jolla were poisoned in error admittedly by a pest control company of Los Angeles recently. Although antidotes were used, owners fear the trees may die.

The trees are on the properties of Mrs. Sally C. Paige, 1043 S. Coast Blvd., and Ronald E. Liss, 1039 S. Coast Blvd., and they overlook La Jolla Cove, one of the prettiest view points in La Jolla. The trees are about 75 years old and are 70 feet tall.

A pest control company hired to kill six trees on land adjacent to the Paige and Liss properties admitted it misread the blueprints and soaked chemicals onto the cypress trees by mistake.

The six trees the pest control company was hired to destroy, are to make way for a nine-story office building, which is to be the central part of Prospect Center on Prospect Street, east of Girard Avenue.

The Los Angeles chemical company which makes the chemical said the injured trees had less than a 50-50 chance since the poison had a 48-hour start The trees were flushed with water and liquid fertilizer to stop the rise of the sap, as a possible antidote to the chemical.

House Plants Make Ideal Yule Presents

By MILLICENT VANDEKAMP

No home should be without potted plants. If you are one of the new house owners in Southern California, now is the time to beautify the interior of the new place with growing things, too. Housewives usually have a choice of the species of plant they wish to cultivate. But first the most important item is the type of container to be used. One must determine whether to use clay pots or plastic pots. Either is suitable.

Clay pots are porous. These provide the necessary air circulation for the roots, and have drainage holes for water. Plastic pots are lightweight and easy to handle. However, as with metal or ceramic containers, water evaporates slowly, and one must be careful not to use too much water. There also is another thing to remember about plant potting: if you do not have drainage, water can accumulate in the bottom of the pot. Lack of drainage causes gases that are toxic and harmful to the plant.

The homeowner may purchase potting soils in small bags at the nurseries, of if he feels like experimenting, the homeowner can prepare his own. About three years ago the editors of Better Homes & Gardens suggested a formula for most house plants, and I'd like to pass it on to you, if you do not have one of the magazine's Garden Books. The formula is:

Three parts garden soil
One part well-rotted manure
Two parts leaf mold or peat moss
One part perlite or sharp sand
One-fourth part wood charcoal flakes

For cacti and succulents, at least double the sand or perlite, and add one-half part dolomite lime.

One should sprinkle the mixture lightly with water while blending.

By following these simple directions I have grown among others the lovely African violets, philodendrons, an indoor palm and a rubber plant.

A neighbor has a number of varieties that tie-in well with the upcoming holiday season. For instance, she has potted poinsettias, Christmas cactus, Crown of Thorns and Cyclamen Persicum.

At this time of the year homeowners who have grown house plants begin thinking of their acquaintances, friends and relatives in terms of giving them plants for Christmas. The most suitable gift might be the Crown-of-Thorns. This is a popular Christmas plant. It originated in southern Asia and Africa. It is a succulent. The Crown-of-Thorns and the poinsettia are euphorbias. They both have the milky juice so typical of all euphorbias. As the juice is harmful one should use care not to get any of it in the mouth or eyes or into a cut or scratch.

Succulent euphorbias must have sunlight, a warm place, careful watering and air circulation.

New homeowners should be advised of the decorative house plants should they also desire to pot them and package them as Christmas gifts when the yule season arrives. Christmas cactus, if properly nurtured during the previous months, should now be in bloom. If not, begin now to insure that it will bloom next year. The cactus is a native of Brazil (Schlumbergera var.). They perch like other epiphytic plants in the crotches of trees. They must have the best organic soil, sufficiently rich to provide the nourishment they need, and free enough to receive aeration of its fine roots.

When grown in pots, there should be a two-inch layer of fine stones in the bottom of the container to make for proper drainage. The soil must not be packed tightly around the roots. This type of cactus does not like hot midday sun. It prefers that all sunlight be filtered, as shimmering through the trees that protect them from direct overhead light. They also must have good air circulation. One should remember to feed the plant regularly and give it plenty of water, only when the plant is in active growth. Keep it in one place, don't move it around, is another good rule to follow.

THE CALIFORNIA REDWOOD STORY

There are two kinds of "redwood" trees in the United States. One of these is *Sequoia gigantea,* or Sierra Redwood (the "Big Tree"), which occurs in relatively small and isolated areas at high elevations in the Sierra Nevada. Some of the best known of the of the giant redwoods, such as the Nation's Christmas Tree and the General Sherman, are of this kind. Almost all of the Sierra Redwoods are now in national or state parks. These are not used for the production of lumber.

The second species of redwood is *Sequoia sempervirens,* better known as the California Redwood. This is the source of commercial redwood lumber. The California Redwood grows in extensive areas, totalling one and a half million acres, stretching for hundreds of miles along the California coast. Some of these trees, while in many respects equally majestic, are less old and smaller in diameter (but in some cases taller) than the most famous of the Sierra Redwoods. All figures below refer only to the Coast Redwood.

Regrowth Replaces Redwood Taken From The Forest

Reforestation and other forms of forest management are widely practiced in privately owned redwood forests. Actually, redwood is one of the *fastest growing of the commercial lumber trees.* Thousands of high quality "second growth" trees three to four feet in diameter are to be seen in areas which have been logged during the past century. A preliminary government report soon to be published estimates the new growth of commercial redwood to average 480,000,000 board feet per year over a ten year period. Part of this growth is from new trees, grown since original cutting; part of it comes from the accelerated growth of established trees receiving increased light, air and water as larger mature trees are removed. And most important, it is a *net* figure, after deducting losses from a variety of natural causes. This is a 20% increase over the previous decade!

Large Scenic Areas of Original Redwood Forests Are Preserved

Many thousands of acres of original growth California Redwood forests have, with the cooperation of the redwood lumber industry and citizen groups, been set aside as public parks, preserving for all time the beauty of these original forests. Substantial additions to these are offered by their present owners and can become public property when compensation or exchange problems are settled. Nearly one-third of the entire present area of old growth redwood trees, and an even larger proportion of the volume of timber, is in public hands.

There are now twenty-three Redwood Parks, totalling nearly 100,000 acres, administered by the State of California. Additional areas in the hands of bureaus and divisions of both the National and State governments bring the total publicly owned redwood forest to 227,000 acres! There is no chance, unless it be done under government direction, for the "last redwood" ever to be cut.

Redwood Lumbering Is An Important And Recognized Industry

Redwood lumbering is a major California industry. It has been so for more than a hundred years. Hundreds of millions of dollars are invested in forests and equipment. Thousands of workers are employed in forestry and processing. In large areas of Northwestern California, redwood is a major source of tax revenue. Production of redwood lumber is controlled by the laws of the State of California and regulated by agencies of the State. Every effort has been made to make redwood timber a continuing and valuable resource.

A Calendar of Care

☐ ORCHIDS

October, to the Cymbidium enthusiast, approaches the moment of truth. He will soon know whether the summer care he gave his plants was to their liking or whether he will have to grit his teeth and try harder next year. He knows, of course, that the watering and feeding program he carried out from April through August has predetermined, to a large extent, the number and quality of flowers he may expect on his plants this fall and winter. Few plants are so intolerant of neglect as are the Cymbidium Orchids, and one that has been hungry and thirsty through the long hot summer months is probably trying too hard just to stay alive to bother putting out a bloom spike.

But suppose our green-thumber did everything that he was told to do. He repotted those plants that needed attention just as early in the year as possible without sacrificing bloom, and thus gave them the benefit of uninterrupted growth through the spring and summer months. They had generous amounts of high nitrogen food twice monthly and they had been kept moist but not soaking wet. Sun and light had been controlled by lath and shade cloth according to the best advice available. In short, they are healthy, large plants and according to all the books they should put out bloom spikes this year. Is there anything else to do this October 1st to improve their chances of flowering? Yes, of course.

Feeding should be changed to a low nitrogen, high phosphorous formula. Growths are made up, and by now should be fairly well ripened. Any further major growing will probably be at the expense of flowers. Additional phosphorous and a slight increase in potash is now needed to set and mature the incipient bloom spikes.

This is the most critical time of year for the control of insect and animal pests. Red spider, snails and slugs are always a problem, but Cymbidium flowers are the garden equivalent of top sirloin to these predators and they seem to gather from miles around for a good meal. Fortunately, Kelthane and Metaldehyde will assure that it is their last meal and these preparations should be used in liberal quantity. Neither chemical, however, should be applied directly to flowers or buds, and complete control prior to the emergence of spikes is desirable. One further word of caution. Many of the standard snail-slug baits contain arsenic which is highly toxic to Orchid roots and these baits must not be used. Ants and aphids may pop up from time to time but a light dusting with 10% Chlordane will rout them in a hurry.

Continue watering as usual, with the 'Always moist, never wet' rule in mind. The sun is going South, the days are getting shorter and generally more overcast. Hence, containers will not dry out as rapidly and less water may be needed. Water early in the morning if possible, so that foliage will be completely dry by the time temperatures drop at nightfall. Or, if watering must be done late or not at all, wet the potting medium only and avoid getting water on the foliage. Never, if you can help it, allow water to accumulate and remain in the tips of new growths or spikes. There is no quicker way to damp them off.

While considering shorter days, let us remember that Cymbidiums need maximum light for best growth and bloom. It may be advisable to relocate some of the plants to increase sun exposure. Later, when spikes are actually showing, the soft pastel colors will want to be shaded in order to minimize sun fading; this should not be done until buds are just beginning to push out of their sheath. Winter rain should be kept in mind too, since it is sometimes accompanied by hail. Overhead protection is desirable in this case because a hard pelting rain or hail spots and mars flowers. Shade cloth or translucent paneling do an excellent job of cutting down the force of the elements.

And, finally, plants should be shown at their best, and to this end should be cleaned and dressed up. Removing dead leaves, cutting dry leaf tips and stripping down the dry bulb sheaths takes little time and pays large dividends in appearance. Carry the clean up job on to the containers and the growing area. Clean, neat appearing plants in a well kept house seldom offer a haven for insects and fungi and are a pleasure to show. No apologies are necessary when a good job of growing has been done.

Happy hunting . . . may we find lots of bloom spikes.

Byron Geer
S.D. County Orchid Society

☐ CAMELLIAS

This appears to be a very good year for camellias even though we have had very little rain. The Sasanqua will be the first camellia type to bloom, starting in late October and continuing through January. Since the Sasanquas are small and open in a mass of flowers, like azaleas, disbudding is not necessary. Because of its open, willowy habit plants of this group lend themselves to espaliers, ground covers or—a new idea—to hanging baskets.

"Showa-Supreme" is a deep clear pink Sasanqua well suited to ground cover or hanging basket. "Tanya" is a rich rose pink with bushy dark green foliage. Because of its compact

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growth it is outstanding for shrubs or hedges.

Continue to disbud the late-blooming Japonicas, leaving only one or two buds to the stem. Plants should be kept moist, clean and free of insects, for rewarding results during the blooming season. "Grand Slam," a large, brilliant red, with heavy, broad close-coupled dark green leaves, and "Kick-off," a light pink, striped with speckled rose-red, are two outstanding camellias of recent introduction.

A new liquid fertilizer especially developed for camellias has been tested on thousands of plants for the past two seasons with excellent results. This 6-10-8 fertilizer has a fish base with chelated iron and trace elements. The fertilizing program for camellias starts in March and continues with four feedings equally spaced through September.

William T. De France
San Diego Camellia Society

☐ DAHLIAS

This is the time of year when dahlia growers start thinking of next year's garden. The bloom is gone from this year's, but there's work—and fun—still to go.

Fun? Yes, for the dahlia hobbyist all the work in his garden is fun. The fact that dahlias respond to year-around care makes dahlia growing an engrossing and interesting year-around hobby.

Right now, there is the question about what to do with the tubers still in the ground, even though the plants still may be green, and may bear a few late flowers.

Mildew is a problem at this time of year, and if spraying isn't immediately effective, the gardener knows it will be better to stop watering the plants and let them go into a natural decline.

It is too late to fertilize, and rather futile to spray for insects. It is better to let nature take its course, or perhaps help matters along to stop the growth.

Tubers (roots) will keep better if they are not dug while the plant is green. To hurry up the drying off process, the gardener might go around each plant with a spade; push straight down and pry-lift ever so lightly. This will cut and break all the plant's feeder roots and help the clump of tubers mature while the plant is dying back.

When the leaves and stalk have dried or turned brown the stalk should be cut six to 10 inches from the ground, with the clump staying in the ground. After a week, or perhaps two, the clump should be cured and ready for lifting.

Unless the gardener has had some experience, it is a good idea to save the clumps just as they are, turned upside down to drain in a paper board box and with as much soil as will cling to the clump.

If the clump is large, it might be split down the center, and both halves properly labeled and stored. For safe storage, shredded paper, or peat moss, or vermiculite, or even sand, might be placed in the box with the clumps to keep the moisture in and the drying air out. Box and tubers should be stored in a cool, dry place, away from drafts.

The digging-and-storing process should be put into effect about mid-November for best results; the later the better.

The more experienced dahlia enthusiast will prefer to cut the clumps into divisions, ready for planting next spring, a system he will have learned by attending meetings of the dahlia society, or by learning from some other grower.

For the average gardener who has a few dahlias, or who has used them as a border along a wall, the digging may be wasted effort. If the soil is well-drained, the tubers will keep just about as well, if not better, right where they are. Just cut the tops back when the plants dry.

In the spring, the sprouts will appear, and then the gardener can decide whether to dig, separate, and replant, or just let the tubers grow. The flowers may be a little smaller, but they will be as colorful with feeding, watering, and spraying, as they would have been dug and stored.

Some gardeners fear that roots left in the ground even this late will not keep, but experience shows that the earlier they are dug, the less chance they will keep.

Examination of roots of plants that died back by mid-September or so probably will show that the roots aren't worth saving anyhow; such early die back is an indication of bad tubers, or disease.

To avoid fretting, the average gardener might realize that new roots can be purchased next spring, possibly cheaper than the time and trouble of saving them. And fretting takes the fun out of gardening.

Larry Sisk
S.D. County Dahlia Society

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☐ FUCHSIAS

Since Autumn in the San Diego area often brings the hottest, driest weather of the year, it means extra work for the fuchsia grower. He must insure adequate moisture both in the soil and in the air around the plants on hot days, especially if there are Santa Ana winds.

At this time the older, tired, bloomed-out plants should be prepared for their dormant period by gradually reducing food and water. Vigorous young plants may be groomed for many more weeks of bloom by discreet pruning coupled with proper feeding and watering. In warm, protected nooks in coastal gardens, fuchsias may bloom all winter.

Some of the hardier old fuchsia varieties such as "Rose of Castile," (sometimes called "Minnesota"), "Storm King," and "Cardinal" bloom at our home near San Francisco the year around with very little care. There is a large plant of "Gartenmeister Bonstedt," a hybrid of the species Triphylla in a La Jolla garden that has tassels of orange bloom most of the time except for the early spring months.

Lately, many fuchsia growers, even some nurserymen, have complained of sudden defoliation. Such plants should be checked, with a magnifying glass, for thrip, which causes streaks on leaves and flowers or red spider which will brown the foliage so it drops if not caught in time.

Mild sprays of DDT or Malathion, respectively, will control these two pests if detected early. Fuchsias may defoliate if poisonous chemicals are used too strongly, so go easy on the sprays. Plants that have become dehydrated or badly run down must be watered and fed very sparingly at first lest they defoliate or even die. Some times if a fuchsia is moved to a radically different location the leaves may fall. Root virus may also be a cause. There are many cases that remain unexplained.

Advocates of fuchsia pruning in the fall are increasing rapidly. They claim less die-back, less danger from frost damage, more flexibility of blooming period, plus the advantage of extra cuttings for fall propagation. Prune according to growth type, (bush, basket, espalier, etc.) always leaving enough foliage to insure regrowth.

Morrison W. Doty
S.D. Fuchsia Society

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☐ ROSES

By the time you read this column the low point in Southern California rose growing will be over. Our growing season is so long that the fresh new growth of early Spring gets very tired and discouraged by the end of July. In spite of everything you can do, bushes give the appearance during August of ill-fed and ill-clothed children. However, if you have kept up your watering, feeding and spraying schedule, fresh new Spring-like growth is now in evidence. By October and until after Thanksgiving you should once again agree that roses are the most rewarding of garden inhabitants. While moderately demanding, nothing gives such a constant abundance of flowers for home and garden display.

If any of you are interested in having nice blooms for exhibition either at the National meeting of the American Rose Society in Phoenix or at the Rose Hills Thanksgiving Show, you must not let down your guard. Keep up the feeding, watering, spraying and disbudding. Don't let your bushes get too tall and rangy. No matter how clever you are at dressing your blooms it is far better to pick them from the bush in near perfect condition. The Phoenix meeting is October 22-24 with headquarters in the Westward Ho Hotel. For schedules, write to Mr. James O. Long, 6307 Twelfth Place, Phoenix, Arizona. Since only rarely is a National meeting within driving distance of Southern California, I sincerely hope that many San Diego rosarians will attend. Nothing is so stimulating to enthusiasm and so informative as meeting with rosarians from all over the country and participating in the program itself.

The Secretary of the American Rose Society, Mr. O. Keister Evans will be with us in San Diego, probably for dinner on Tuesday evening, October 27. If anyone would like to have dinner with our Society and meet Mr. Evans, please get in touch with me.

Several weeks ago I had occasion to travel to Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Having lived there during the War, I paused one evening beside a simple plaque in memory of one of America's earliest rosarians. It said simply, "Near this place lived Michael H. Walsh who made the rambler rose famous." On three sides of the grassy plot surrounding the memorial are arbors entwined with his famous introduction Excelsa. It might be interest-

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ing to recount a little of Mr. Walsh's work lest we forget how much we owe to these famous men of another generation.

Mr. M. H. Walsh died in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, on April 10, 1922 at the age of 74. He was born near Chester, England and came to America in 1868 bringing with him to Boston as a young man of 20 a predisposition toward rose culture. In England in those days, boys started earning a living early in life and young Michael began his garden work at the age of eleven. After coming to this country he worked briefly in Belmont and Brighton but soon undertook his intensive life's work toward the production of better climbing roses when he was appointed head gardener of the extensive estate of Joseph S. Hay in Woods Hole. He grew wonderful roses under glass for the Hay mansion but the enduring, living, blooming glowing monuments to Mr. Walsh's hybridizing genius are all over America and Europe in the hardy climbing roses he produced.

With Excelsa taking the place of Crimson Rambler; with Hiawatha, Paradise, Evangeline and Milky Way the "Walsh Quartet" of single loveliness; with Lady Gay and Mrs. M. H. Walsh in dainty double flowers; with all this plus vigor and hardiness we have reason to remember the quiet worker of Woods Hole who never introduced a rose he did not believe in. The "Official List of Roses" lists Mr. Walsh as having introduced 42 varieties. Because of his work the American Rose Society granted to him its highest honor, the Hubbard Gold Medal in 1914 and used a colored picture of his rose, Excelsa, as the frontpiece of the first volume of the Annual published in 1916.

Donald A. Wilson
President, San Diego
Rose Society

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Mrs. Fisher wrote to us as the first snows started to hit the Rockies, and said, ". . . You would be surprised to hear of all the prizes I have won in the Rose Shows. . . . I was "King of The Show" in the Denver, the Arapahoe County and the Boulder County Rose Shows. In the Boulder Show alone, I had **Best Grandiflora, Best Three Hybrid Teas, Best group of Three Peace, and I won 9 blue ribbons, 1 red, 5 yellow and 1 white all out of 21 entries. . . ."**

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BEGONIAS

In early and mid-October all of the begonias—except the tuberhybrida—are at their loveliest. The tall canes and hairy fibrous are dripping with bloom and the large leaved rhizomatous have huge umbrellas of blossoms towering over them. The medium and small leaved rhizomatous are big balls of various shapes, sizes and sheens while the rexes are a fairy carpet of color. The entire effect is one of a wall of growing, glowing color, never being sure where one plant stops and another begins. It is their last burst of glory before the curtain of fall and winter descends.

With so much loveliness being given out by the plants, this is not the time to neglect them. Continue the feeding that produced such an effect and keep up the spraying program that has protected them from insects and disease as this is the last opportunity for the bugs to feast. Be alert to the probability of hot weather and drying winds that usually arrive at this time. Such conditions require more attention to see that the plants do not dry out—neither should they be drowned from over-zealous attention.

Other than that, during most of October, just enjoy your plants.

Toward the end of October, and on into November, you will notice a subtle change in your garden—some of the leaves will turn yellow and fall from some of the canes; the bottom leaves of the large rhizomatous will start to grow downward, as will the leaves on the rexes; the flowers will fade and dry, and in most instances, hang on giving a dusty appearance to the leaves where the seed pods have spilled their contents on the foliage below. This does not mean that the plants need more attention in the matter of water and food—on the contrary, a bit less of each is in order as the plants are preparing to rest for the next few months while the days are shorter, cooler, and—we hope—wetter.

Margaret M. Lee
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Begonia Society

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CACTI and SUCCULENTS

I have heard it said that 'there is a time and place for everything.' And I have come to believe this is true of a cactus and succulent garden. There is a time to plant it and a time to take care of it and a time to just sit back and enjoy it.

I am all for working in a garden. I can't think of many things I would rather do. In fact, what is nicer than going out in the cool of the morning, and transplanting plants before the rays of the sun tell you it is time to stop. Or again going out in the evening after a hot day, pulling a few weeds, pinching off a scraggly growth here and there.

But best of all I think is to just admire your garden, and better yet, have someone else admire it. Gardens are grown for the end result, and sometimes we tend to forget this when we get so busy, caring for it, that we are too tired to enjoy it. The same thing happens in our hectic everyday living, that we are so busy doing we have no time to savor what we have done. So all the more reason to have a garden one can enjoy as a place to relax, rest, sip a cup of morning coffee, enjoy a cool afternoon drink, and the company of friends amid the plants and flowers. Let Nature take over.

Succulents and Cacti gives any gardener this opportunity. No group of plants give so much for so little. Some grow fast and some grow slow, but to me they seem to require a minimum of care, compared to, say, roses. I try to group my plants according to their requirements to make gardening even easier. The shade-loving plants are grouped together, under a tree, in the shade of the house, as the ones that require more frequent watering. The sun-loving ones are grown where they will get the sun, if not all day, part of the day. These plants grow ideally among rocks, the rocks giving some shade and tending to conserve soil moisture. Besides, the gray greens of the succulents blend so nicely with the grays and tawny shades of the rocks.

Yes, it is nice to just sit back and enjoy one's garden, not only by thinking, there it is all planted. Now, with a gravel or small stone mulch, to discourage weeds, there isn't much to do, till they grow so big, I might want to divide and transplant them. That will take years. But it is also fun to hear the comments of friends, when they admire the various textures and growth characteristics of our highly individualistic succulent and cactus plants. These plants with their green tone on tone color form a mosaic lovely to view.

Hmm . . . I think I shall have my coffe in my garden now.

Helen Marie Steger
San Diego Cactus and
Succulent Society

ARIZONA CACTUS IS DISAPPEARING

University of Arizona, led by Dr. Stanley Alcorn, a plant pathologist, is making studies to try to get an answer for the decline of the saguaro plant.

Just as Californians would deplore the possibility of disappearance of its beautiful northern redwoods, they hope the Arizona scientists will not only find the answer, but a cure to save this valued plant.

Southern Californians sympathize with their Arizona neighbors who are shocked by the possibility that its giant cactus is nearing extinction.

The giant cactus is dying off in the Tucson area and Arizona University scientists predict that it will be gone, particularly from the Saguaro National Monument, before the end of this century if its present mortality rate continues.

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House of 'Sin'

By FRED G. FROST

As one reaches the summit of Long Branch Avenue in Ocean Beach his eyes catch a glimpse of a frame house set back from the roadway and partly concealed by a pastoral green umbrella of tropical trees and other foliage. Further up in the driveway stands an automobile. It faces the closed door of a garage.

Upon entering the driveway one sees on the left front a tall silver tree, *Leucadendron argenteum.* It would make an ideal picture for a publication. Nearby one sees a Eugenia, with a 20-foot spread. This, too, partly hides the house. But there is something odd about these trees. They have ventilation: windows in the skies.

Surrounding the house and garden are a variety of Cycads, leftovers from a former age. Then there is a fish tail palm, *Caryota ochlandia,* a very rare specimen. Also nearby is a tropical plant from Hawaii and South America called *Acalypha marginalis.* This plant is 10 feet tall and 10 feet wide.

The first flag-stones one sees at the front of the premises are misleading. The ones that lead to the house extend slightly to the right and then abruptly to the left. As one walks along these he sees a dark red board with white letters affixed to the side of the house. It is Chinese writing.

A red rubber mat lies in front of the framed windowed door entrance to the house. On this mat is inscribed the word, S I N. It is not the house of the devil. It is the house of "Sin." This is an abbreviation of the name Sinjen, San Diego's noted landscape designer. His initials are "W.J." but everyone calls him, Sin.

To the right of the doorknob and just a little above it hangs a cord with a ball at the end of it. One just pulls it and listens to the sound of the bell ringing inside the house. One doesn't have to wait long. The door opens. A tall, slim Oriental-looking man, with sparse hair, stands in the opening. After one has announced the reason for his visit to this enchanting place, the man of the house says, "I am Sin; come in."

Sin sprawls out on the lounge, fiddles with his bare feet, smiles, and answers the questions as they begin. Sin was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. His father had a large estate, raised stock, Hannoverian horses, and was a dealer in cattle and grain. Sin was 13 when his father died. It was the age that was a turning point in Sin's life. His father had planned that he become the master of the estate. But economic conditions prevented this, so Sin had to learn a trade or else a profession.

Mr. Sinjen said he chose horticulture as a lifetime pursuit. Before he could graduate as a horticulturist, he had to work three years without pay, but he received room and board while learning his profession. "Practice and theory go together in Europe," he said.

The first year he was a helper in a flower and vegetable garden. The second year he was promoted to the position of semi-boss. As the latter he supervised the boss, and had authority over the greenhouses and hot-beds. "Everything in Europe," he added, "is under glass."

During this time he was taught the fundamentals of flower arranging. After graduating from horticulture and landscape designing, Sin was promoted to the post of aide to others. He had to arise at 6 a.m., have the first breakfast at 6:20 a.m., after a few chores had been done. Breakfast consisted of barley grits and milk. A second breakfast at 9 a.m. consisted of two slices of bread and meat.

There was a regular meal at noontime. At 3 p.m. the student-workers were given a slice of white bread, a piece of coffee cake and a cup of coffee. Dinner, consisting of barley soup and fried potatoes, was served at 6 p.m. "We then went back to work until 9 p.m., making wreaths for funerals."

The wreaths, Sin explained, were interwoven with fresh flowers, and these were carried by people to church and then to the graveyard, where they were placed on the graves.

Later young Sinjen became an assistant, with a wage of ten dollars a month. A relative who was in the United States suggested that the young designer come to America. Sinjen first advertised in the leading horticulture journals of continental Europe offering his talents. He received many offers but in the end he came to the United States.

"I came to Long Beach, California, and became a grower and salesman for the old Miramar Nursery. It is now defunct. Here I learned to speak English," said Mr. Sinjen.

The German proprietor who hired him marveled at Sinjen because he'd always do in one day work that was supposed to take a week. Mr. Sinjen was in Long Beach for many years until war came. He served with the United States Army for five years in the camouflage section. After his discharge, he settled in San Diego. Here he established a reputation, specializing in lacing: opening of the plant or tree to create depth in a garden.

It is a science that you have to have a feeling for, Mr. Sinjen says, pointing out that he is now booked two months in advance on lacing design jobs that have to be done. People know what they are getting when they call Mr. Sinjen.

Have You Subscribed?

CALIFORNIA GARDEN is becoming increasingly popular among the garden families of Southern California. For more than 50 years it has been a must in most Orange, Riverside and San Diego homes. Its more than 1,200 subscribers will testify to its authoritativeness on gardening subjects.

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If you are not a subscriber, why not become one? If you are a subscriber, why not pass along to a relative or a close friend a Christmas Gift subscription to CALIFORNIA GARDEN? You'll be glad you did.

State Surveys Say Pesticide Danger is Past

Associated Press and Copley News Service State Capital reports in a recent *San Diego Union* print state that California's food supply is safe from pesticide dangers. Fruits and vegetables in Southern California retail stores are free of the insecticides. The reports are based on surveys made by Governor Brown's Pesticide Review Committee and by the state Department of Agriculture.

The most extensive report comes from the agricultural department. It discloses that the department examined 300 samples of fruits and vegetables in 150 retail stores from Santa Barbara to El Centro and did not find a single sample of pesticide residues with over-tolerance. This survey covered stores in San Diego and Los Angeles counties.

State Agriculture Director Charles Paul says 65 kinds of fresh fruits and vegetables were checked in the survey. This is one phase of a constant surveillance by the department against pesticides. His department exercises control over the use of pesticides from the manufacturer by registration and review of labels by specifying condition of application by constant surveying of produce moving through wholesale markets. It also watches retailers to be sure that all fruits and vegetables offered for sale to California consumers are wholesome.

Paul also says that 99 per cent of the fruits and vegetables examined in nine previous surveys showed they were within legal pesticide tolerances. The affected one per cent of the fruits and vegetables were ordered cleaned or destroyed. An initiative which sought to prohibit the use of pesticides in agriculture, as alleged by proponents of the measure "as harmful to the human body," failed to qualify for the November 3 ballot.

The governor's Pesticide Review Committee, in its preliminary report, the press associations say, called for a 13-point, $640,000 program stressing research as the first step toward providing the necessary safeguards against over-tolerances.

Forest Fires Take Heavy Toll

One of the most distressing stories to read in the daily press at this time of the year is the destruction by fire of hundreds of acres of California woodland. All because someone carelessly threw a lighted match or forgot to stamp out a lit cigarette. Or was it something else that started it?

One of the most recent destructive fires occurred in Los Padres National Forest. It took a force of 730 men who were hampered by 1500-foot cliffs in virtually inaccessible mountain terrain to battle this 250-acre blaze north of Fillmore in the Sespi Wild Life Preserve.

Another recent fire happened on Palomar Mountain, about 14 miles from the Mt. Palomar Observatory. It took 900 men to fight this conflagration which was centered in 1440 acres near the Cleveland National Forest in Riverside County.

What was so odd about these two fires? Neither was caused by a lighted match nor a burning cigarette. The first was caused by a private airplane which crashed and ignited brush, the second is said to have been caused by tracer bullets fired by hunters. Neither could be called careless.

Remember–
only YOU can prevent forest fires!

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION PROGRAMS

Third Tuesday, 8 p.m., Floral Building, Balboa Park

Chairman—Mrs. Ralph Canter

Theme for the Year: "Beauty in Everyday Living"

Regular Meeting, October 20
Subject: Ceramic Standards—Beauty in Utility.
Speaker: Mr. Val Gene Sanders, Studio Potter.

Regular Meeting, November 17
Subject: Principles and Materials of Landscape Design, Part II.
Speaker: Mr. J. J. Kennedy, A.S.L.A.

FLORAL ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES FOR 1964 - 1965

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Garden Center: Mr. Virgil Schade
Whaley Rose Garden: Mr. Roy C. Lawton

NEW CIVIC CENTER IRIS GARDEN
County of San Diego, California
Resolution

WHEREAS, the San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society has booked its Regional 15 Flower Show for San Diego in 1966 (the Regions encompassing Los Angeles, Ventura, Riverside, Orange, Imperial, San Bernardino and San Diego Counties in California and the State of Arizona); and

WHEREAS, in anticipation of this Flower Show, the San Diego-Imperial Counties Society would like to have permission to plant blue and white Iris at the West entrance of Civic Center (the host club) at 10:00 a.m. on September 19, 1964, later to be followed by additional plots so that the Civic Center grounds may have this large planting of Iris in full bloom as a show piece for the 1966 Flower Show; and

WHEREAS, a substantial segment of the San Diego County flower growing industry is set to Iris and thousands of private citizens grow them as fanciers; and

WHEREAS, this planting on September 19 could touch off a sustained program for the beautification of Civic Center grounds because planting of Iris will replace seasonal annuals, furnish permanent lower maintenance and provide a longer blooming period; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED that permission be granted for the planting and the Public Works Department be requested to cooperate in every way through the gardening staff to assist and encourage the San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society to set up this plan.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego, State of California, this first day of September, 1964.

As a result of this resolution being adopted, the San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society presented the City of San Diego with iris for a large planting to beautify the Civic Center.

On September 19, 1964, a ceremonial planting took place at the West entrance with James E. Watkins, President of the Iris Society, and James Saraceno, President of the Civic Center Garden Club, presiding and making the presentation to the Board of Supervisors.

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1756 Mission Cliffs Dr., S. D. 16

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5459 Del Cerro Blvd., S.D. 20
Rep.: Mrs. Jack White 222-1344
1019 Cordova, S.D. 7

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Rep.: Wm. C. Hoffman (above)

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Rep.: Mrs. Lester Crowder 295-5871
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Pres.: Charles Richards
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4950 Canterbury Drive, S.D. 16

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Rep. Myron Geer (above)

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3734 40th St., S.D. 5
San Miguel Branch
First Wednesday, Youth Center
Lemon Grove, 7:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. J. W. Lowry 463-4762
7452 Roosevelt, Lemon Grove

CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB
First Friday, VFW Hall, Carlsbad,
1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Doris Simpson 729-1515
1075 Chinquapin Ave., Carlsbad

CHULA VISTA FUCHSIA CLUB
Second Tuesday, Norman Park Recreation
Center, 7:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. William Hook 422-6322
133 I, Chula Vista

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CLAIREMONT GARDEN CLUB
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Place announced at each meeting.
Pres.: Mrs. R. N. Zeich 276-0551
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Christ Church Parish Hall, Coronado
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& Pershing, 8 p.m.
President: Charles Williams 284-2317
4240 46th, S.D. 15

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1068 Devonshire, Encinitas

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house, 1:30 p.m.
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3rd Mon., Lakeside Farm School, 7:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. W. R. Kuhner 443-3163
P. O. Box 561, Lakeside

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Third Thursday, La Mesa Woman's Club,
1:45 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. J. Holland Noel 463-6795
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LEMON GROVE WOMAN'S CLUB
(GARDEN SECTION)
First Tuesday, Lemon Grove Woman's
Club House, 1 p.m.
Chairman: Mrs. O. R. Patterson
8396 Golden, Lemon Grove 466-5242

NATIONAL CITY GARDEN CLUB
Third Wednesday, National City
Community Bldg., 7:30 p.m.
President: Henry Dell 284-7346
4912 Mansfield, S. D. 16

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Second Wednesday, S. Oceanside
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Pres.: Mrs. James E. Flynn 722-3509
1809 So. Horne St., Oceanside, Calif.

PACIFIC BEACH GARDEN CLUB
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Community Club House, Gresham
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Pres.: Mrs. Ethel Hansen 273-3501
3504 Ethan Allen, S.D. 17

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Second Tuesday — Club House, 2:00 p.m.
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Fourth Tues., Homes of Members, 1 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Brandon J. Neal 465-2682
6702 Jackson Dr., San Diego 19

SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB
Third Wednesday, Seacoast Savings
Building, Encinitas, 10 a.m.
President: Mrs. Waldo Vogt 755-4772
773 Barbara Ave., Solana Beach

SANTA MARIA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
Second Monday, Ramona Women's
Club House, 5th and Main, 10 a.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Nelson R. Brown 789-1034
510 Fifth, Ramona

SPRINGHOUSE GARDEN CLUB
Third Thursday, Porter Hall, Univ. &
La Mesa, 7:30 p.m.
President: Mr. R. M. Frodahl 469-1933
3852 Avocado, La Mesa

VISTA GARDEN CLUB
First Fri., Vista Rec. Center, 1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. James Sorenson 724-1745
1655 Foothill, Vista

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